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# Northern New Mexico Riparian, Aquatic, and Wetland Restoration Project

## Errata to the Final Environmental Assessment

Carson National Forest, Cibola National Forest,  
Santa Fe National Forest, and Kiowa National Grassland

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# Northern New Mexico Riparian, Aquatic, and Wetland Restoration Project Environmental Assessment

## Errata Sheet – July 2021

The Northern New Mexico Riparian, Aquatic, and Wetland Restoration Project Final Environmental Assessment (EA) was released in December 2020. This errata sheet documents corrections to the text of the published EA, and should be reviewed along with the final EA. These corrections reflect instruction provided by the Objection Reviewing Officer in a letter dated March 22, 2021. These corrections are consistent with direction given in Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Chapter 10, Section 18. There are no changes to the project or significant new circumstances identified in this errata sheet that affect the analysis and conclusions in the Northern New Mexico Riparian, Aquatic, and Wetland Restoration Project Final EA. Language with a strike-through is deleted from the EA, and underlined language is added.

**Global Change,** The EA erroneously states that there are 15 project types when there are 16 based on the list of project types included in Chapter 2. Between the draft and final EAs, the Groundwater-Dependent and Groundwater-Recharge Ecosystems project category was split into two project types—Restoration of Seeps and Springs and Restoration of Playas. The activities included under these two project types did not change, only how they are described and categorized in the EA. This changed the number of project types from 15 to 16. Any reference to 15 project types is hereby replaced with 16 project types throughout the EA.

**Page 24, section entitled “Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Study,”** During the objection process, concerns were expressed that the project failed to consider other alternatives to achieve the project’s purpose and need. Specifically, the project should have considered an alternative that closed all riparian ecosystems to grazing and decreased grazing in upland vegetation communities. In response to this concern, the following text replaces the current text in Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Study on page 24 of the final EA. This Section is updated as follows:

~~No additional alternatives in the scope of this analysis were suggested by either the public or the Forest Service interdisciplinary team. The proposed action has been modified to capture issues raised by the public or team members.~~

An alternative that would have closed all riparian areas to grazing and reduced upland stocking levels was considered when preparing this EA. The proposed project’s purpose is to improve riparian and aquatic conditions, not rangeland management. As mentioned in **Chapter 1**, changes to grazing are addressed

during allotment-level NEPA analysis through term grazing permits, allotment management plans, and annual operating instructions and are beyond the scope of this EA. Based on the above, an alternative that closes all riparian areas to grazing and reduces upland stocking levels is not feasible and is beyond the scope of this EA.

In addition, the Proposed Action does include some elements of this alternative, which may lead to reduced grazing in riparian areas, including but not limited to livestock fencing on a limited scale and development of off-channel and upland watering sources.

**Page ii, section entitled “Figures”,** added the following figure below:

3-6 Erosion Hazard Ratings

3-7 Riparian Treatment Opportunities (example)

**Page 16, section entitled “Road and Trail Erosion Control, Relocation, and Decommissioning,”** The fourth bullet incorrectly refers to a category of National Forest System motorized trails that does not exist. This bullet is deleted from the document:

- Nonsystem roads and trails (motorized and nonmotorized)
- National Forest system nonmotorized trails
- National Forest system roads that are not on the Motor Vehicle Use Map *and* were found to be unneeded by the Subpart A, travel management plan
- ~~National Forest System motorized trails that are not on the Motor Vehicle Use Map~~

**Page 116, beginning of Chapter 5,** The following text is added to the beginning of Chapter 5:

All of the following documents were consulted in the development of this project. They are hereby incorporated by reference.